



Public Health Service
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Centers for Disease Control
and Prevention (CDC)

January 6, 2004

TO: State and Territorial Epidemiologists
State and Territorial Public Health Laboratory Directors

THROUGH: Director, Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases

SUBJECT: Surveillance for Botulism
Summary of 2002 Data

Attached is the summary of laboratory-confirmed and epidemiologically-linked botulism cases from January 1 through December 31, 2002. The information provided has been compiled from reports submitted by state epidemiologists and laboratorians, the CDC botulism laboratory, the Infant Botulism Treatment and Prevention Program (in conjunction with the California Department of Health Services), CDC epidemiologists, and the CDC botulinum antitoxin release database. If the attached 2002 data from your state are incomplete or inaccurate, please contact:

William M. Duck, MS, MPH
Botulism Surveillance Officer
Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
1600 Clifton Road, Mailstop A-38
Atlanta, GA 30333
Phone: 404-639-2206 / Fax: 404-639-2205

The Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch (FDDB) maintains intensive surveillance for cases of botulism in the United States. All data regarding antitoxin releases and laboratory confirmation of cases are recorded annually by CDC. Epidemiologists from FDDB are available 24 hours a day to answer calls from state and local health departments or physicians treating potential cases of botulism at (770) 488-7100.

This report will be publicly available on our website:
http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dbmd/diseaseinfo/botulism_a.htm under "Botulism, additional information". We look forward to continuing to work together toward the control of this important public health problem.

William M. Duck, MS, MPH
Surveillance Epidemiologist, Foodborne Disease Epidemiology Section, (FDES)

Jeremy Sobel, MD, MPH
Medical Epidemiologist, FDES

Susan E. Maslanka, PhD
Chief, National Botulism Surveillance and Reference Laboratory, Foodborne Disease Laboratory Section (FDLS)

Patricia M. Griffin, MD
Chief, Foodborne Diseases Epidemiology Section

Robert V. Tauxe, MD, MPH
Chief, Foodborne and Diarrheal Diseases Branch
Division of Bacterial and Mycotic Diseases
National Center for Infectious Diseases

Enclosures

cc:
Director, Epidemiology Program Office
Director, Public Health Practice Program Office
Regional Offices
Director of Regional Operations, PHPPO
Deputy/Associate Directors, NCID
Division/Program/Office directors, NCID
CDC/W
NCID

APPENDIX A

Summary of Botulism Cases Reported in 2002

A total of 130 cases of botulism intoxication were reported to CDC in 2002. Among the 21 cases of foodborne intoxication, toxin type E accounted for 14 (67%) cases, toxin type A for 5 (24%) cases, and toxin type B for 2 (9%) cases. The median age of patients was 49 years; no deaths were reported. There were 3 multicase outbreaks, all associated with Alaskan native foods.

There were 81 reported cases of infant botulism. Toxin type B accounted for 56 (69%) cases and toxin type A for 25 (31%) cases. The median age of patients was 15 weeks; no deaths were reported.

There were 24 reported cases of wound botulism. Toxin type A accounted for 22 cases while toxin type B accounted for one case. Due to insufficient specimen quantity, toxin type could not be determined for one case. The median age of patients was 45 years; no deaths were reported.

There were 2 reported cases of adult colonization botulism. Toxin type A accounted for one case and toxin type F accounted for the other case. The patients, 52 and 63 years old, respectively, survived.

There were 2 botulism cases of unknown etiology. Toxin type A accounted for both cases. The patients, 54 and 80 years old, survived.

Table 1. Summary of Reported Botulism Cases - 2002

Foodborne

21 cases

Median age: 49 years (range: 0.5-83 years)
Deaths: 0 (1 case without information)
Gender: 11 (52%) male, 10 (48%) female
Toxin type: 14 (67%) type E, 5 (24%) type A, 2 (9%) type B

3 multi-case outbreaks

Infant

81 cases

Median age: 15 weeks (range: 0 - 52 weeks)
Deaths: 0 (3 cases without information)
Gender: 38 (47%) male, 43 (53%) female
Toxin type: 56 (69%) type B, 25 (31%) type A

Wound

24 cases

Median age: 45 years (range: 30 - 66 years)
Deaths: 0 (8 cases without information)
Gender: 20 (83%) male, 4 (17%) female
Toxin type: 22 (92%) type A; 1 (4%) type B; 1 (4%) toxin type not determined

Adult Intestinal Colonization

2 cases

Age: 52 and 63 years
Deaths: 0
Gender: 2 (100%) female
Toxin type: 1 (50%) type F, 1 (50%) type A

Botulism, Type Unknown

2 cases

Age: 54 and 80 years
Deaths: 0
Gender: 2 (100%) female
Toxin type: 2 (100%) type A

**Table 2. Cases of Botulism by State and Type
January 1- December 31, 2002**

<u>State/District</u>	<u>Foodborne</u>	<u>Infant</u>	<u>Wound</u>	<u>Other*</u>	<u>Total</u>
AK	14				14
AZ		3			3
CA		20	20		40
CO		3			3
CT		1			1
DE		2			2
GA		1			1
HI		1			1
IL		1			1
IN		1			1
KY		1			1
ME	2	1			3
MI		1			1
MN		2			2
MO		2			2
NJ		3			3
NM		1			1
NYC		4			4
OH		4			4
OK		1			1
OR	1	2		1	4
PA	1	16			17
SC	1				1
TN		3			3
TX	1			1	2
UT		3			3
VA	1	3			4
WA		1	4	2	7
<u>Totals:</u>	21	81	24	4	130

* Adult intestinal colonization or unknown

**Table 3. Cases of Foodborne Botulism by Month (N=21)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>	<u>Death</u>
January	ME	40	Male	A	Home-canned tomatoes	No
	ME	13	Male	A	Home-canned tomatoes	No
June	VA	6 months	Male	A	Home-canned beef and peas	No
July	AK*	67	Female	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	83	Male	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	79	Female	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	51	Female	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	83	Male	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	79	Female	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	46	Male	E	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	13	Female	E [†]	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	46	Male	E	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	42	Male	E	Traditional AK Native food	No
	SC	49	Male	B	Home-canned pickles	Unknown
	August	AK	69	Male	E	Traditional AK Native food
September	AK*	73	Female	E	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	38	Female	E	Traditional AK Native food	No
	AK*	45	Female	E	Traditional AK Native food	No
	OR	20	Female	A	Home-canned chicken soup	No
November	TX	75	Male	A	Unknown	No
December	PA	77	Female	B	Home-canned peppers	No

* Cases involved in 3 multicas e outbreaks in AK.

[†]Toxin type derived from epidemiologically-linked case.

**Table 4. Cases of Infant Botulism by Month (N=81)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (weeks)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin type</u>	<u>Death</u>
January	CA	39	Male	B	No
January	CA	11	Male	A	No
January	CA	18	Male	B	No
January	PA	12	Male	B	No
January	NJ	28	Female	B	No
January	ME	9	Female	B	No
January	WA	24	Male	A	No
February	CA	28	Female	A	No
February	CA	34	Female	B	No
February	MI	4	Male	A	No
February	OR	0	Male	A	No
March	CA	12	Female	B	No
March	CA	31	Female	B	No
March	CA	18	Female	B	No
March	DE	24	Male	B	No
March	AZ	16	Male	B	No
March	AZ	8	Female	A	No
March	PA	16	Male	B	No
March	PA	9	Male	B	No
March	TN	16	Female	A	No
March	TN	12	Female	B	No
April	PA	4	Female	B	No
April	PA	6	Male	B	No
April	UT	28	Female	A	No
April	VA	16	Female	B	No
April	VA	16	Male	B	No
May	CA	16	Female	B	No
May	CA	21	Female	A	No
May	CA	4	Male	A	No
May	CA	16	Female	A	No
May	CA	20	Male	A	No
May	MO	12	Female	B	No
May	NYC	19	Male	B	No
May	OH	16	Female	B	No
June	CA	15	Male	A	No
June	CO	20	Female	A	No
June	CT	20	Male	B	No
June	PA	24	Female	B	No

**Table 4 (cont). Cases of Infant Botulism by Month (N=81)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (weeks)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin type</u>	<u>Death</u>
June	PA	4	Female	B	No
June	PA	10	Male	B	No
June	IN	13	Male	B	No
June	NYC	3	Female	B	No
July	CA	9	Female	B	No
July	CA	32	Female	A	No
July	GA	16	Male	B	No
July	PA	8	Female	B	No
July	PA	12	Male	B	No
July	PA	4	Male	B	No
July	UT	6	Male	A	No
August	CA	18	Female	A	No
August	AZ	28	Male	A	No
August	IL	15	Female	B	No
August	PA	24	Female	B	No
August	PA	12	Female	B	No
August	MN	12	Female	B	No
August	NM	4	Female	A	No
August	NYC	15	Male	B	No
August	UT	40	Female	A	No
September	OK	2	Male	A	No
September	PA	3	Female	B	No
September	TN	3	Female	B	Unknown
October	CO	24	Female	A	No
October	DE	3	Female	B	No
October	PA	8	Female	B	No
October	NJ	16	Male	B	Unknown
October	MN	22	Male	B	No
October	NYC	14	Male	B	No
October	OH	52	Female	B	No
October	VA	4	Female	B	No
November	CA	18	Female	B	No
November	NJ	3	Female	B	Unknown
November	KY	15	Male	B	No
December	HI	8	Male	B	No
December	CA	27	Male	A	No
December	CA	11	Male	B	No
December	CO	16	Male	B	No

**Table 4 (cont). Cases of Infant Botulism by Month (N=81)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (weeks)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin type</u>	<u>Death</u>
December	PA	8	Female	B	No
December	OH	12	Female	B	No
December	OH	20	Male	B	No
December	OR	0	Male	A	No
December	KS	12	Male	A	No

**Table 5. Cases of Wound Botulism by Month (N=24)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Exposure*</u>	<u>Death</u>
January	CA	39	Male	A	IDU	No
	WA	50	Male	A	IDU	No
February	CA	37	Male	A	IDU	No
April	CA	49	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	41	Female	A	IDU	No
	CA	48	Male	Unknown [†]	IDU	Unknown
	WA	43	Female	A	IDU	No
June	CA	43	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	51	Male	A	IDU	No
July	CA	54	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	43	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	43	Male	B	IDU	Unknown
August	CA	45	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	50	Male	A	IDU	No
	CA	45	Male	A	IDU	No
	WA	51	Male	A	IDU	No
September	CA	50	Female	A	IDU	No
	CA	40	Male	A	Unknown	Unknown
October	CA	30	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	66	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
November	CA	37	Male	A	IDU	Unknown
	CA	46	Male	A	IDU	No
	WA	54	Female	A	IDU	No

* IDU= Injection drug use

[†] Serum quantity not sufficient for toxin typing

**Table 6. Cases of Adult Intestinal Colonization Botulism (N=2)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Death</u>
April	TX	52	Female	F	No
August	OR	63	Female	A	No

**Table 7. Botulism Cases of Unknown Etiology (N=2)
January 1 - December 31, 2002**

<u>Month</u>	<u>State</u>	<u>Age (years)</u>	<u>Gender</u>	<u>Toxin Type</u>	<u>Death</u>
October	WA	54	Female	A	No
December	WA	80	Female	A	No